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- Jones, David  
Cheadle, Stoke on Trent ST10 1UX (GB)
- Kyhlberg, Lars  
Llangollen LL20 8LU (GB)
- Clay, Ray  
Congleton, Cheshire CW12 4FD (GB)

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(71) Applicant:  
**J.C. BAMFORD EXCAVATORS LIMITED**  
**Uttoxeter Staffordshire ST14 5JP (GB)**

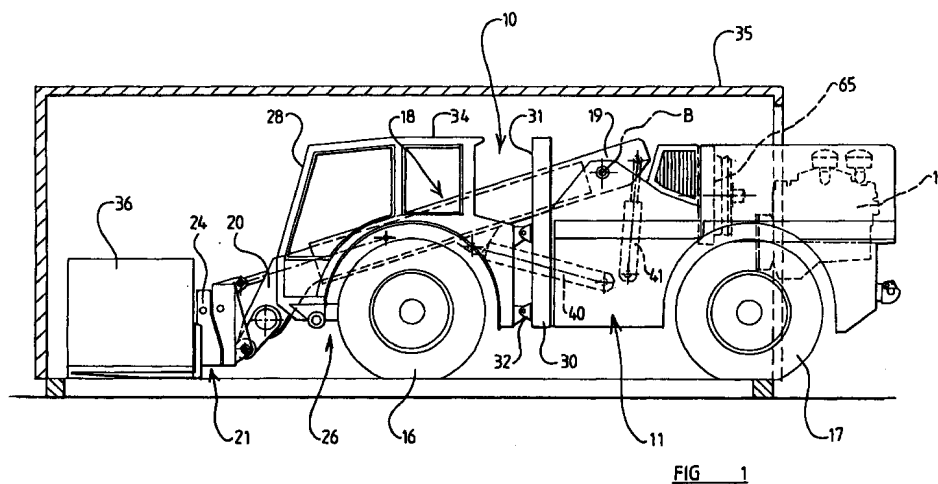
(74) Representative:  
**Lucking, David John et al**  
**FORRESTER & BOEHMERT**  
**Franz-Joseph-Strasse 38**  
**80801 München (DE)**

(72) Inventors:  
• Moul, John  
Cheadle, Stoke on Trent ST10 1LY (GB)

(54) **Load handling apparatus**

(57) A load handling apparatus (10) includes a body (11), a power operated motive means (14), a front axle (46) and a rear axle (47), the axles (46,47) each carrying ground engaging means (16,17) on which the apparatus (10) may move over the ground, at least one loader arm (18) supported at or adjacent one end (19) on the body (11) for movement about a generally horizontal axis (B), the loader arm (18) being adapted to

carry a loading implement (21) at or adjacent a second end (20) thereof, the apparatus (10) further including an operator's cab (28), characterised in that means (30,-33) are provided to move the cab (28) generally upwardly and downwardly between upper and lower positions relative to the ground engaging means (16,17).



**FIG 1**

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# EUROPEAN SEARCH REPORT

Application Number  
EP 99 11 3846

DOCUMENTS CONSIDERED TO BE RELEVANT			
Category	Citation of document with indication, where appropriate, of relevant passages	Relevant to claim	CLASSIFICATION OF THE APPLICATION (Int.Cl.7)
X	DE 296 21 184 U (SCHAEFF) 10 April 1997 (1997-04-10) * page 7, paragraph 1 - page 11, paragraph 2; figures 1-4 *	1-3	E02F9/16 A01B51/02 B62D7/15
X	FR 2 020 061 A (VAN DER LELY) 10 July 1970 (1970-07-10) * page 2, line 28 - page 16, line 18; figures 1-20 *	1,2,9	
A	DE 31 15 398 A (WEICHEL) 16 December 1982 (1982-12-16) * the whole document *	1	
A	DE 297 15 920 U (SENNEBOGEN) 30 October 1997 (1997-10-30) * page 5, paragraph 3 - page 6, paragraph 1; figures 1-3 *	1-3	
A	WO 96 15656 A (DOWLER) 30 May 1996 (1996-05-30) * page 14, paragraph 3 - page 24, paragraph 1; figures 1-21 *	9	TECHNICAL FIELDS SEARCHED (Int.Cl.7)
A	US 5 427 195 A (LOWELL A. PAUL) 27 June 1995 (1995-06-27) * column 6, line 20 - column 23, line 21; figures 1-11 *	9	E02F A01B B62D
The present search report has been drawn up for all claims			
Place of search <b>THE HAGUE</b>		Date of completion of the search <b>10 February 2000</b>	Examiner <b>Vermander, R</b>
<p><b>CATEGORY OF CITED DOCUMENTS</b></p> <p>X : particularly relevant if taken alone Y : particularly relevant if combined with another document of the same category A : technological background O : non-written disclosure P : intermediate document</p> <p>T : theory or principle underlying the invention E : earlier patent document, but published on, or after the filing date D : document cited in the application L : document cited for other reasons &amp; : member of the same patent family, corresponding document</p>			

EPO FORM 1503 03.82 (P04C01)



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### CLAIMS INCURRING FEES

The present European patent application comprised at the time of filing more than ten claims.

- ☐ Only part of the claims have been paid within the prescribed time limit. The present European search report has been drawn up for the first ten claims and for those claims for which claims fees have been paid, namely claim(s):
- ☐ No claims fees have been paid within the prescribed time limit. The present European search report has been drawn up for the first ten claims.

### LACK OF UNITY OF INVENTION

The Search Division considers that the present European patent application does not comply with the requirements of unity of invention and relates to several inventions or groups of inventions, namely:

see sheet B

- ☐ All further search fees have been paid within the fixed time limit. The present European search report has been drawn up for all claims.
- ☐ As all searchable claims could be searched without effort justifying an additional fee, the Search Division did not invite payment of any additional fee.
- ☒ Only part of the further search fees have been paid within the fixed time limit. The present European search report has been drawn up for those parts of the European patent application which relate to the inventions in respect of which search fees have been paid, namely claims:  
1-4;9
- ☐ None of the further search fees have been paid within the fixed time limit. The present European search report has been drawn up for those parts of the European patent application which relate to the invention first mentioned in the claims, namely claims:



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**LACK OF UNITY OF INVENTION  
SHEET B**

Application Number  
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The Search Division considers that the present European patent application does not comply with the requirements of unity of invention and relates to several inventions or groups of inventions, namely:

1. Claim : 1 2 3 4

means to move the cab up and down

2. Claims: 5,10

the loading implement

3. Claim : 6 7 8 11

the suspension system

4. Claims: 1-4;9

the steering characteristics

**ANNEX TO THE EUROPEAN SEARCH REPORT  
ON EUROPEAN PATENT APPLICATION NO.**

EP 99 11 3846

This annex lists the patent family members relating to the patent documents cited in the above-mentioned European search report. The members are as contained in the European Patent Office EDP file on  
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For more details about this annex : see Official Journal of the European Patent Office, No. 12/82

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